YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Committee on Agricultural Productivity in Eastern India, under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. R. Sen, has made detailed recommendations in respect of each agro-climatic zone in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and eastern Uttar Pradesh, for increasing agricultural production/productivity in these States. The Report has been discussed in a meeting of Chief Ministers of the four States in Patna in January, 1986; and States have agreed to implement the recommendations. The Committee in their Report have *inter alia* emphasised that for accelerated agricultural development of the region, a large number of tube-wells and pump-sets will have to be installed and considerable improvement in drainage and water management techniques will have to be made.

Sassoon Dock Fishing Harbour Project

807. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the Sassoon Dock Fishing Harbour Project, Bombay in 1979;

(b) whether the work of the project has been suspended on the advice of the Government of India;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps have been taken to lift the suspension and resume the work of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. But the Project was sanctioned in 1977 and not in 1979.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Local residents and Environmentalists protested against the construction of the Project and filed writ petitions in Bombay High Court.

(d) The issue was resolved and clearance for recommencement of work was given in November 1981.

808. [*Transferred to the 5th May, 1986*].

Vacant posts in the All India Radio

809. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of posts are lying vacant in the All India Radio for long;

(b) if so, what is the number of posts (category-wise) lying vacant in All India Radio, the period for which these posts have been lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(c) to what extent the non-filling up of these posts has affected the working of All India Radio and what steps have been taken by Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c) All India Radio has a vast net-work of 88 Stations with Headquarters Office at New Delhi. In such a vast net-work, vacancies will naturally arise due to retirements/promotions from one grade to another or creation of new posts to meet the needs of expansion. Further in the lower grades, like Lower Division Clerks, Stenographers, etc. the new recruits resign soon after joining because they secure better jobs elsewhere in the private/public sectors. The number of vacancies which are not in one place but spread over the network keeps changing. These vacancies do not affect the work of AIR; the existing persons turn in extra-work and attend to all important matters.